

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-5. **Cancelled**

6. **(Currently amended, Withdrawn)** The peptide as claimed in claim 48 2, wherein it comprises the amino acid residues 63-109 of DCD (SEQ ID No: 3).

7.-30. **Cancelled**

31. **(Currently amended, Withdrawn)** A method for protecting and/or treating human skin against microorganisms, comprising the step of administering the peptide as claimed in claim 48 2 or in claim 49.

32.-34 **Cancelled**

35. **(Withdrawn)** A method for protecting and/or treating human skin against microorganisms, comprising the step of administering the peptide as claimed in claim 6.

36. **Cancelled**

37. **(Currently amended)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 48 2 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

38.-40 **Cancelled**

41. **(Withdrawn)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 6 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

42. **Cancelled**

43. **(Currently amended)** A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 48 2 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

44.-46 **Cancelled**

47. **(Withdrawn)** A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 6 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

48. **(Currently amended)** An isolated antimicrobially active peptide consisting essentially of a fragment of the C-terminal of dermcidin protein of SEQ ID NO: 1, said fragment comprising a maximum of 50 contiguous amino acids of said C-terminal.

49. **(Previously presented)** An isolated antimicrobially active peptide consisting of amino acid residues 63-110 (SEQ ID NO: 2) of a dermcidin (DCD) protein.

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50. **(Previously presented)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 49 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.

51. **(Previously presented)** A cosmetic composition which comprises as active ingredient a peptide as claimed in claim 49 in an antimicrobially effective amount of 1 to 50 µg.